

SUMMARY.

According to a Berlin official report the German and Russian troops have captured Braila, in the south-east of Moldavia.

The report adds: "The Dobruja is now cleared of the enemy."

The Russians are reported to have destroyed most of the factories before abandoning Braila.

A Russian official message says: "The enemy moved back southward of the mouth of the Danube."

The enemy, it adds, launched fierce attacks against the Russian positions.

"There was a stubborn battle, with heavy losses," the message continues. "The enemy compelled us to withdraw."

The Germans are advancing slowly beyond Ploesti, and are pressing the Russian back.

The Russians are expected to be rapidly repulsed, and the German advance is expected to be stopped in a few weeks.

The captured stocks of oil are said to be sufficient for Germany's present needs.

On the Western front the British raised the line from south-east of Arras, and extended as far as the German third line.

Enemy dugouts were destroyed, and much damage was done to the German lines.

A German raiding party entered the British lines south of Loos. There was heavy fighting, and the enemy was repulsed.

A German official message says: "We pushed the fourth line, eastward of Loos, and inflicted sanguinary losses on the English."

Since Christmas British aeroplanes have been a constant menace to the German lines.

There has been a lively reciprocal fire in the region of Douai and Valenciennes.

The French artillery bombarded enemy positions on the Somme front.

The Russian attack captured a position south-east of Kalenik, south-west of Nizh, taking 750 prisoners.

A German official report says: "We defeated the Russian battalions, north-west of Kalenik."

Van Mackens captured a strong position from the Russian lines, capturing villages, and reached the Serch.

The Germans attacked the Russian positions in the region between the coast and the Mian-Ria high road.

Dr. Schaeffer, a pronounced pro-Germanist, admits that the Allies are capable of destroying the German economic forces.

"There is no question now," he says, "of the enemy having to pay the cost of the war."

Germany, it is asserted, has not disclosed the full extent of her resources.

The German Emperor, in an army order, says that the Allies are capable of destroying the German economic forces.

"Before God and humanity," he declares, "the enemy must be responsible for the terrible sacrifices which I wanted to spare."

The French press is discussing the possibility of a German attempt to force a passage through the Dardanelles.

Mr. Lloyd George and Lord Milner, with their official advisers, have arrived in Rome to discuss the situation.

The newspapers emphasize the importance of the conference, and declare that the Entente is progressing towards decisive events.

The "Pittsburgh Courier" says the War Council in Rome is probably assembled to obtain Italian co-operation in the Balkans.

It is practically a new political crisis in Austria, owing to the Government's refusal to accept the Russian ultimatum.

It is reported from Athens that, judging by the tone of the press, Greece will shortly declare war on the Entente.

The blockade has not yet seriously affected the food supply. The trade is disorganized.

Military officers are recruited, and have been sent to the front.

They believe that Mr. Mackens will soon sweep south, and that the Entente is important.

The Council of Ministers at Athens has appointed a food dictator, and decided to restrict daily rations.

The Anas Buffet in the Domain was opened by Mr. Justice Ferguson on Saturday afternoon.

The State Recruiting Committee is working hard to recruit men to the army.

Mr. H. C. Hoyle contemplates visiting the United States and England for health reasons.

Twenty of 24 pupils who were trained in the School of Aviation in September will shortly leave for the front.

About 75 of the temporary huts have been put out of the Government Printing Office.

Improved methods of printing the Government Printing Office are suggested to the printer by Mr. F. Bryant, M.L.C.

It is expected that the site for the new building should be in the vicinity of Parliament House.

Men have been discharged from the Harbour Trust works and the railway construction branch.

Ministers point out that the difficulties were found necessary for reasons of economy.

Some trouble arising out of a change of shift in the printing of the Government Printing Office should be in the vicinity of Parliament House.

The mutton slaughterhouse, including the slaughterhouse, have been decided to be extra.

A week of prayer, organized by the Evangelical Council in connection with the war, was held on yesterday.

A married woman named Branscombe was killed by a car at Tassell, near Gosford, on Saturday.

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PHOTOGRAPHS ARE A NECESSITY!

They are a very material help to the family archives. The infant, the youth, the young man, the parent, and old age, all should have faithful photographs to hand down from generation to generation, and to link the family of today with the family of the future.

Our facilities and artistic training, backed up by powerful effect, produce the best results. We keep pace with every advance in photography, and our pictures get the best of the camera. We know that if you call at the Studio you will know it. We purchase every improvement in apparatus that will make better photographs, but our prices remain the same. Come to the Crown Studio.

THREE SPECIAL OFFERS:

1st.-A Cabinet, 6 Prints, and an Enlargement, mounted size 10 x 12, for 10s. 6d. 2nd.-A Cabinet, 6 Prints, and a beautiful Enlargement, mounted size 10 x 12, for 12s. 3rd.-A Cabinet, 6 Prints, and a beautiful Enlargement, mounted size 10 x 12, for 14s. 6d.

These are the best of the Studio. We have a beautiful Wedding Present, something that will be a permanent possession. This is a beautiful photograph of a young couple, mounted size 10 x 12, for 10s. 6d. This is a beautiful photograph of a young couple, mounted size 10 x 12, for 12s. This is a beautiful photograph of a young couple, mounted size 10 x 12, for 14s. 6d.

PHOTOGRAPHY IN ITS BEAUTY AND BRILLIANCE.

We take photographs in any weather, wet or cloudy. We do not differ in our pictures. We take photographs up to 100 ft. daily, but on Fridays up to 150 ft. daily.

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AMUSEMENTS.

J. C. WILLIAMSON THEATRES.

Direction J. C. WILLIAMSON, LTD.

Managing Director—George Talbot, Hugh J. Ward, Clyde Meynell.

CRITERION, TO-NIGHT, AT 8.

MATINEE, WEDNESDAY, AT 2.

An Unusually Moving Story.

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AMUSEMENTS.

THE BUNNY PANTOMIME.

Next Matinee, Wednesday, at 2.

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PROVIDE CORNWELL'S VINEGAR
FOR YOUR OWN HOME CRUET.

he awake; for he heard no sound. If that brute
"Don't wake him." The door was drawn to
quietly. The knocking at the door broke out
more noisily. Some one was getting im-
patient.
The door had not caught. The Judge could
hear the voices.
"They'll pull down the house if you don't
open," cried Mr. Skerrett.
"Then came Simon's queer hubble-bubble,
"May happen to be the p-p-plice," he
said.
There was a second's pause. Then—
"Der house above's light!" said Mrs. Skerrett.
"Light!"
"To dark as the grave," her husband
replied in the croaking whisper.
"Led them knock," said Mrs. Skerrett,
amiably.
"Der house above's light!" said the death widder.
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On Saturday night, the Metropolitan Opera, had the unusual experience of starting his weekly recital with the daylight hours. The first number was a waltz, still straining into the Town Hall. One of the most enjoyable features of a waltz was the most enjoyable was the ballet music from Meyerbeer's "Robert the Devil," which was the concluding number. Other numbers were the overture to Verdi's "Macbeth," "Othello," and "Aida," "Serenade," to which an extra, "Angelic Voices" (Battiste) was given; Lemmens's "Pantare in D"; the intermezzo from Paganini's "Cavalleria Rusticana," which was given; and the "The Lost Chord" (Santini), with the intermezzo from Macbeth's "Cavalleria Rusticana," as an extra; and "Le Cygne" (Battiste-Sans).

City best Manly, at Manly, by 29 points.
Marriottville II. best Drummonds, at Marriottville
by 17 points.
Petersham II. best Kurrings II., at Petersham, by
points.
Petersham II. best Marriottville I., at Petersham
by 18 points.
Gloucester Park best Warrington, at Warrington, by
points.

Mrs. M. CAFE'RY, "Caplington," Conoco
West. Writes:—"I was an invalid, and could
not eat or sleep. I can now eat and sleep
as usual. My doctor says I am getting better."
Gloucester Tonic has worked a miracle.
I was a weak woman of 50."—Adv't.

DR. SHELTON'S "NEW DISCOVERY" is an up-
date cold banisher, being a prompt and effective reme-
dy for all throat troubles. Get a bottle to-day. A

MONDAY, JANUARY 8.

SUPREME COURT.
Probate Jurisdiction.—The accounts set down placed on Monday (Court holiday) have been referred to said instant, at the same hours.

DISTRICT COURT.
Before the Registrar.—At 10.30 a.m.: Curtis v Moore. At 10.45 a.m.: Thompson vs. Bins.

COMMONWEALTH PRICES BOARD.
At 10 a.m.—The Commissioner will hold an sittings regarding the prices.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 9.

SUPREME COURT:
In Equity.—Before the Deputy Registrar in
At 11 a.m.: Re F. Flood, decd., and JG Goodwin, decd., and Trustee Act, to settle minutes of sale.
At 12 noon, Perpetui Ten Co., Ltd. v. The City of London, to settle minutes of order.

114a PITT STREET .. SYDNEY.

own at the rate of 55lb of superphosphate and 45lb of seed per acre. A manure test

[illegible]

BATHURST DISTRICT.

BATHURST.—The past season in the Bathurst district has been a successful one for the agriculturist, pastoralist, and orchardist. From the farming standpoint the season has proved a successful one, and the crops have been harvested in the best of order. The seasons have passed since hard owners experienced such favourable conditions. The crops have been harvested in the best of order, and the green growth has been abundant.

hens introduced since the same variety. An area harvested while growing 25 bushels 15b. against 25 bushels 15b. from an area not barrowed.

THE SEASON.

TRANSLER.—Farmers are still busy trying to have as much wheat as they can. One large farmer said he had only got about a third of his wheat crop. About the luck of farmers generally in this district. In some cases they have not patches of good grain with heavy yields, and almost complete loss of it, pinched areas, not fit for milling. There is abundance of feed everywhere.

WHO OWNED THE SHEEP?

CLAIM FOR DAMAGES.

— DAMEG, Friday.

A case of considerable importance to stock dealers came before Mr. P. B. Treat, P.M., in the Small Debts' Court, when Jasper East-

[illegible][illegible]

THE WHEAT CROP.

On the night of the 4th the sheep were driven to the Young Truck and were left to graze on the alfalfa crop of area. During the night or early next morning Eastlake's netting fence was broken and the sheep were driven down the ramped down the crop, causing the damage complained of. Another lot of sheep was driven down the alfalfa crop of area, and another drover admitted that they had driven the sheep down the alfalfa crop of area. On the 15th a representative of the sheep company was seen by the witness, and he told him that a gate on Stanley station had been closed and that he had ordered the drover to return with them to the station. The witness also told him that he had ordered the drover to return with them to the station; also that he would see the sheep on the 16th at another man named Bryant's station. The witness also told him that he had ordered the drover to return with them to the station; also that he would see the sheep on the 16th at another man named Bryant's station. The witness also told him that he had ordered the drover to return with them to the station; also that he would see the sheep on the 16th at another man named Bryant's station.

Mr. MARGARET CLAVEY, William-street, Sandington, speaking of her son, says:—"His fall through River trouble was broken by me. It is remarkable how well Comstock's medicine acted on him. It has given him a new lease of life."—Advt.

**"This Little
Hidden Beauty
Revealed"**

ch is an exclusive
the

Vocalion

the expressive

THE GRADUOLA v
feature
Aeolian-
adds immensely t

reproduction.

hasize those delicate
in ordinary repro-
harshness of tone or
minimum, and you can
the music that the re-
This variation of tone
natural and simple as
he tone is not stifled
but before the sound
ore the purity of the

play any disc records.

e Aeolian-
showrooms.

WIKEN IN PART PAYMENT.

By a touch you can effect tonal qualities that are reductions; you can reduce other faults in a record to impart a light and shade to a record alone could never give is effected by mechanism that of the human larynx. or muffled after production is actually amplified; the tone is absolutely unaffected.

The Aeolian-Vocalion

*Call and hear
Vocalion in operation*

YOUR PRESENT INSTRUMENT

0 0 to £75
HANDSOME MODELS.
SC RECORDS.
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.,
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Prices: £12
IN A LARGE RANGE OF
FULL STOCKS OF

The Pianola
PTY.
384 George S

nla.news-page12

BRAILA TAKEN BY ENEMY GALATZ MAY FALL MOLDAVIA'S DANGER

ENTENTE CONFERENCE AT ROME SHIPS SUNK 29 IN FIVE DAYS

Braila, an important Roumanian city, in the south-east corner of Moldavia, has been taken by the enemy. The city of Galatz is thus endangered, and the Russians and Roumanians may fall back from the Sereth line and abandon Moldavia.

The enemy claims that he has now completely occupied the Dobruja.

British, French, and Italian statesmen are conferring at Rome. Mr. Lloyd George is present.

Submarines during the first five days of this year sank 29 ships, with an aggregate tonnage of 68,000.

The position in Greece remains obscure. It is believed that influential circles in Athens wish to defy the Allies.

It is believed that a critical situation is developing in Austria-Hungary, where the new Emperor is removing pro-Germans from prominent positions.

WESTERN FRONT.

BRITISH RAID.

LONDON, Jan. 7. Sir Douglas Haig's last report last night stated:—We seized and, having repulsed a counter-attack, consolidated two points northwards of Beaumont Hamel. We successfully raided in the daytime a wide front south-east of Arras, and penetrated as far as the third line, destroying many dugouts, and doing much damage to the enemy's defences. We took 280 prisoners in minor actions.

Since Christmas our aeroplanes have bombed a number of places of military importance behind the lines with good results.

Sir Douglas Haig's last report on Friday stated:—An enemy raiding party entered the British lines south of Loos. There was heavy fighting, the enemy being repulsed after driving in a number of dead. Some of the British are missing.

We successfully captured a mine north of Ginchy, and destroyed trenches opposite Les Boeufs and Quenequeourt, westwards of Commeuourt and the neighbourhood of Hill Sixty.

GERMAN CLAIM.

(Admiralty—per Wireless Press.) A German official message states: We penetrated the fourth line eastward of Loos, and inflicted sanguinary losses on the English.

FRENCH FRONT.

A French communiqué on Friday reported lively reciprocal artillery fire at Douaumont and Vaux, also considerable reciprocal artillery activity on the Woëvre front.

Twenty French aeroplanes dropped bombs on aerodromes at Matigny, Hautcourt, Fleury, and Bernes, on railway stations at Bouilly, Aves, and Villécourt, and on encampments at Bore.

A later French communiqué records aerial bombardments of an aerodrome, railway station, butiments, bivouacs, and encampments, mostly on the Somme front.

The French communiqué issued at midnight on Saturday says:—There were violent artillery duels this afternoon in the region of Pischendorf. Our artillery successfully bombarded enemy organisations on the Somme front. Enemy counter-attacks at Butte de Mesnil, and in the Champagne were frustrated by our fire.

CONFIDENCE OF ARMY.

Lord Northcliffe, proprietor of the "Morning Post," interviewed for the "Sydney Herald" after his visit to the Western front, said that never were British troops so assured of victory, and never were German prisoners so gloomy. He saw the British, Australian, Canadian, New Zealand, and part of the French front, and the whole of the British and Dominion troops were in better health than in the preceding winter. The health of the army was never better. The average illness, including colds and influenza, was much less than at home, and had been steadily three per thousand during the whole of the winter.

Lord Northcliffe was convinced that the war would be decided on the Western front, and was more confident than ever that the Allies would achieve victory.

ENTENTE LEADERS. CONFERENCE IN ROME.

LONDON, Jan. 6. It was officially announced on Friday that the Prime Minister (Mr. Lloyd George) and Lord Milner (Minister without portfolio), with their official advisers, had arrived in Rome to participate with the French and Italian Governments in an exchange of views on the general situation. A Rome report says the French Premier (M. Briand), Mr. Lloyd George, and Lord Milner received an immense reception as they passed through the crowded streets. The newspapers emphasise the importance of the meeting, and say the conference signifies that the Entente is progressing towards decisive events.

A dinner was given at the French Embassy in Rome in honour of the Allied representatives. The toasts pledged the Allies to the closest union for a decisive victory.

Despatches received in New York from Paris, with reference to the Allied Conference at Rome, say that this is a forerunner of further efforts at co-ordination of the Allied plans. The conference is not connected with peace.

GERMAN VIEW.

(Admiralty—per Wireless Press.) The "Berliner Tageblatt" says the Entente War Council in Rome is probably assembled to obtain Italian co-operation in the Balkans, otherwise General Sarraill's army will be irreparably lost. It indicates the Entente's critical situation in the Balkans.

SWISS NEUTRALITY.

GERMAN MENACE.

LONDON, Jan. 5. There is considerable discussion in the French Press regarding the possibility of a German attempt to force a passage through Switzerland.

The Swiss President and members of the Government in order to ally alarm, announced that Germany had given a formal assurance that Switzerland's neutrality is not endangered. The President added:—"Switzerland would resist to the end if invaded." Nevertheless the "Cologne Gazette" mysteriously asks what would happen to Switzerland if Germany were forced to wage the war with redoubled energy.

It is stated that the Swiss guards on the German frontier were recently strengthened.

The "Observer" points out that France has "opportunistically" renewed her pledge to respect Switzerland's neutrality. The declaration is designed to meet beforehand any subterfuge for a German violation of Swiss neutrality, such as was devised by Germany after she had violated the neutrality of Belgium.

GREECE AND THE WAR.

ENTRY PREDICTED.

LOOKING FOR MAKENSEN.

LONDON, Jan. 6. The "Morning Post" correspondent at Athens says that, judging by the tone of the local Press, Greece will shortly declare war on the Entente.

The Press is exclusively pro-Government, and under the King's influence is passionately in favour of the Entente. It is a centre of British shipping, and possesses excellent grain elevators, docks, and warehouses.

A wireless official message from Berlin says that the Russians destroyed most of the factories before abandoning Braila.

SERETH LINE MAY BE LOST.

The Germans are advancing slowly beyond Foculni, in the south of Moldavia, and are pressing back the Russians. The latter are being driven out of some districts, and their right wing from von Falkenhayn's encircling manoeuvres.

Colonel Feyler, the Swiss military critic, writes: It now seems clear that the Sereth line must, perforce, be abandoned. Stubborn rear-guard actions are likely, with a view to covering the evacuation of Galatz, which is scarcely tenable now that Braila is gone.

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Von Mackensen stormed a strong position from Tartaria to Rimnicul, captured villages, and advanced towards the Sereth. Further south-eastward we captured Olancea, Zilhanca, and Marincel, our advance guards reaching the Sereth.

THE OIL WELLS.

The Germans claim that they are rapidly repairing the Roumanian oil wells, and expect the work will be resumed in a few weeks. In the meantime captured stocks of oil are sufficient for the present needs.

SUBMARINES ACTIVE.

NEW YEAR'S VICTIMS.

LONDON, Jan. 6. The losses of Allied and neutral ships from the 1st to the 5th last total 29, the tonnage being 68,000.

A Christiania message says the Norwegian shipping losses during 1916 totalled 68,000 tons. Nevertheless the Customs records were a record.

A Berlin message says that a submarine has returned to port after sinking eleven ships in eleven days.

Lloyd's report that the Greek steamer Thronos (3015 tons), and the British steamer Gromary (

